

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE SERVICE (FCPS)
SERVICE STANDARD CHANGES, 2021

Docket No. N2021-2

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
QUESTION 2.a OF PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 12 -
ERRATA**
(August 19, 2021)

The United States Postal Service hereby supplements its August 17, 2021, response to question 2.a. of the Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 12, issued on August 10, 2021. The question is stated verbatim and followed by the original and supplemental response .

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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August 19, 2021

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2. Please refer to Responses of the United States Postal Service to Questions 1-22 of Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 4, July 23, 2021, question 12.b. (Response to POIR No. 4), in which the Postal Service does not confirm that implementing the proposal would replace (rather than add to) the existing additional transportation day in place since April 17, 2020 due to COVID-19. The Postal Service further states that it "cannot determine when the additional transportation day due to COVID-19 will be eliminated. The decision to eliminate the COVID-19 day will depend on operational capability."
- a. Please confirm that the Postal Service is planning to implement its proposal in a manner that would add an extra day or 2 days, depending on the exact origin-destination pair, above and beyond the existing additional transportation day added for the COVID-19 pandemic. If not confirmed, please explain.
 - b. Has the Postal Service performed any operational testing of FCPS in the field of the impact of the additional transportation day added to FCPS due to the COVID-19 pandemic? If yes, please provide the results of the operational test. If no, why not?
 - c. Please elaborate on the circumstances that would allow the Postal Service to eliminate the additional transportation day added for the COVID-19 pandemic.

AUGUST 17, 2021 RESPONSE:

- 2.a.** Not confirmed. The decision regarding whether to maintain or eliminate the added transportation day for the COVID-19 pandemic has not yet been determined.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE:

- 2.a.** Not confirmed. Our intention is to make changes to our transportation modes and schedules and refinements to our network and processing operations which will enable us to achieve the proposed service standards under normal operating conditions. In that regard, we intend to eliminate the COVID+1 day in conjunction with the implementation of the new service standards, but we are carefully monitoring the pandemic conditions based upon the emergence of

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Delta and other variants, and we will adjust our plans if necessary. Further, we will consider adding a day to our service commitment in the future for the limited time period of peak season as we have in the past for certain competitive products, given the volume realities and related constraints during that period which make operating conditions extraordinarily challenging.

2.b. The added transportation day has been added to FCPS since April of 2020.

Over 1,800 lanes have been shifted from Air to Surface transportation. Additional details regarding a comparison of service performance without the added day from July 3, 2021 through August 6, 2021, and with the added day, Postal Quarter 4 through August 6, 2021, is provided in the response filed under seal as part of USPS-LR-N2021-2-NP21.

2.c. The decision will be determined by the Executive Leadership Team and will consider the overall operational context. One factor would be current performance without the added day for COVID against the performance with the added day, which is an indication of the Postal Service's operational capability and whether that capability remains limited due to the impact of COVID. I do not know under what precise conditions the Postal Service would consider it appropriate to eliminate the added day.